years and 62 years of age are eligible for appointment as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board.

(d) A few complaints in this regard have been received.

(e) and (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Kalva Turbhe Railway Line in Maharashtra

3485. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer Unstarred Question 2215 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the agreement between CIDCO and Government of Maharashtra for the take over of the Kalva Turbhe Railway line in Konkan has been signed;

(b) if so, what are the terms of the agreement; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The terms and conditions of Agreement to be executed for taking over are yet to be accepted by CIDCO/ State Government.

Appointment of a Dismissed Railway Employee

3486. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a dismissed Railway Employee and a tout doing blackmarketing of reservations has been appointed as a Member of the DRUCC of Central Railway, Nagpur;

(b) whether Government are aware of the criticism which the press media of Nagpur has done on this issue in October, 1992;

(c) whether this person is now using his new found position to do his blackmarketing of reservations with a demanded strength; and

(d) whether he will be immediately removed from this membership?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) A News Item had appeared in the Press media of Nagpur in September, 92 mentioning about wrongful activities of one of the members of DRUCC, Nagpur. A representation was also received in November, 92 from Rail Travellers' Service Agents Association against him. In the criminal case, cited in the said representation, the said person was acquited of the alleged charges of wrongful business in Railway tickets as per judgement delivered in January, 1986. No instance of his indulging in blackmarketing of reservations has come to notice.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

रेलवे परिसर में माल की तलाशी तथा उसे जब्त किया जाना

3487. **श्री राम रतन राम:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 12 अक्तूबर, 1988 को केन्द्रीय सरकार को एक पत्र लिखा है, जिसमें रेलवे परिसर में माल की तलाशी तथा उसे जब्त करने के अधिकार की मांग की गई है;

(ख) उस पर केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिया गया है; और

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकार को उक्त अधिकार देने पर विचार कर रही है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन): (क) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से दिनांक 12.10.88 का एक पत्र प्राप्त हुआ था जिसमें उत्तर प्रदेश में बिक्री कर प्राधिकारियों को सिटी बुकिंग एजेंसियों के माध्यम से बुक

किए गए परेषणों की जांच करने की अनुमति प्रदान करने का अनुरोध किया गया था।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को इस आशय का उत्तर भेज दिया गया था कि सिटी बुकिंग एजेंसियों को ऐसे अनुदेश दे रखे हैं कि वे यह सुनिश्चित करें कि अग्रेषक नोट में परेषणों के पूर्ण ब्यौरे सहित नाम और पते विधिवत रूप से भरे जाएं और परेषणों की बुकिंग के लिए स्वीकार करने से पहले उनकी जांच की जाए।

यह भी स्पष्ट कर दिया गया था कि रेलों को ये अनुदेश भी दे रखे हैं कि अग्रेषित नोट और अन्य संबद्ध दस्तावेजों से सूचना प्राप्त कराने में प्राधिकृत बिक्रीकर पदाधिकारियों को यथासंभव सहयोग प्रदान करें।

(ग) जी नहीं।

Loan by Indian Railway Finance Corporation to Railways

3488. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railway Finance Corporation has loaned Rs. 470 crores to help railways overcome their liquidity crunch;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is against the articles of Association of IRFC;

(c) in what manner Government propose to adjust this loan amount; and

(d) what are the repayment modalities and duration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No loan has been given by Indian Railway Finance Corporation to Railways.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Conversion work of Rajkot-Veraval M.G. Line

3489. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the gauge conversion work of Rajkot-Veraval M.G. Railway line will be taken up;

(b) within what period the work is likely to be completed;

(c) what is the present position of project of gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval M.G. Railway line into B.G.;

(d) whether proposals for opening of new divisions in Western Railways are pending with Government; and

(e) what is the criteria adopted in acceptance of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The Rajkot-Veraval Gauge Conversion Project has been included in Phase-I of Project UNIGAUGE taken up by the Indian Railways. The work will be taken up in the coming years subject to availability of resources.

(d) and (e) Requests had been received in the past for setting up of new divisions on Western Railway. New Railway divisions are set up taking into considertion the size, workload, growth and pattern of traffic and other operational requirements of the existing divisions consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency. Prevailing financial constraints however, preclude the possibility of creating any new division for the present.

Curtailment of Staff in COFMOW

3490. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether retrenchment of staff in Central Organisation for Modernisation of Railway Workshops is being made;